## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## **PCT**

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	<del></del>		• •			
Applicants or agent's rile reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION  See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International application No.	International filing date (day)	nonth/year) Priority date	Priority date (day month year)			
PCT/MX03/00038	25/04/2003	25/04/2	.003			
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC						
C22C38/42						
Applicant						
TUBOS DE ACERO DE MEXICO, S.A. et al.						
<ol> <li>This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</li> </ol>						
2. This REPORT consists of a total	of 2 sheets, including	this cover sheet.				
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).						
These annexes consists of a total of sheets.						
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:						
I X Basis of the report						
II Priority						
III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
IV Lack of unity of invention						
V X Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
VI Certain documents cited	1					
VII Certain defects in the international application						
VIII Certain observations on the international application						
Contracts on the members application						
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Date of submission of the demand	Date	of completion of this report				
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Name and mailing address of the IPEA/	Autho	rized officer	Way E			
European Patent Office	SPII	EKERMANN P H W				
D-80298 Munich Tel. (+49-89) 2399-0, Tx: 5236: Fax: (+49-89) 2399-4465		+49-89) 2399 2828	Office ourobes 18 s brevets . E.			
Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) P20476 (	October 2002)		Office europea			

I. Basis of the report

The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in the claims meets the criteria mentioned in Article 33 (1) PCT, i.e. it appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step and to be industrially applicable.